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WACKY RACELAND

6

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"EQUALLY WEIGHTED BETWEEN PULSE-POUNDING ACTION AND HEARTFELT DRAMA."

–Newsarama

"THERE'S JUST SOMETHING ABOUT THE IDEA OF DICK GRAYSON RETURNING TO THE ROLE OF NIGHTWING THAT FEELS RIGHT."

–IGN

NIGHTWING VOL. 1: BETTER THAN BATMAN

The First Graphic Novel Collection of the Best-Selling Series

Written by

TIM SEELEY

Art by

JAVIER FERNÁNDEZ

JANUARY 2017

THE NEXT EPIC STARTS HERE!

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MOMENTS AGO.

*PURSUED BY FLESH-EATING **NANITE STORMS** AND RAVENOUS **SANDTIPEDES**, THE RACERS SPEED TOWARD THE MYSTERIOUS FACILITY KNOWN AS THE **BUTCHER SHOP** SEEKING ANSWERS ABOUT THEIR ORIGINS.*

*UNKNOWN TO THE OTHER RACERS, **PROFESSOR PENDING** HAS A DIABOLICAL CONNECTION TO THE BUTCHER SHOP.*

OVERRIDE PROTOCOL: NOVEMBER-BRAVO-X-RAY-ONE ZERO-EIGHT ALLOW ACCESS.

*THIS CONNECTION ENABLES HIM TO OVERRIDE **ANNOUNCER'S** PROTECTION PROTOCOLS AND GAIN ENTRANCE TO THE FACILITY.*

AS THE RACERS ENTER THE BUTCHER SHOP, A WHIRLWIND OF THEIR REPRESSED MEMORIES COALESCES, REVEALING A SHOCKING TRUTH.

THE BUTCHER SHOP. NOW.

PENDING, YOU *BASTARD*, YOU WERE BEHIND THIS ALL?

I'M GOING TO *KILL* YOU, PENDING!

LINE FORMS TO THE *RIGHT*, MIDGET.

YOU CAN *ALL* KILL ME WHEN WE'RE SAFE *INSIDE*. UNLESS YOU WANT TO BE KILLED *WITH* ME BY THE *NANITES* AND *SANDTIPEDES*.

LET'S *GO*, BOSS!

"FOR *GOD'S SAKE*, PENDING! HURRY UP AND SHUT THE DAMN *DOORS!*"

"OVERRIDE PROTOCOL NOVEMBER-BRAVO-X-RAY-ONE-ZERO-EIGHT. SEAL ENTRYWAY *NOW*."

SLAM!

NOW WE GET TO KILL YOU!

BASTARD!

WHAP!

UNF!

KILL YOU!

DON'T KILL HIM ALL AT ONCE!

YEAH! SAVE ME A PIECE!

DIBS ON HIS LIVER!

WHACK! WHACK! WHACK!

HMMMMMMM...

I WAS SPEAKING FIGURATIVELY WHEN I SAID YOU COULD KILL ME. BUT IF YOU'RE DETERMINED TO DO SO I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET SOMEONE FIRST.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN--

--SAY HELLO TO MY *WIFE*.

EARTH LIES IN RUINS. THE UNSEEN AND OMNIPOTENT **ANNOUNCER** HAS PROMISED THAT THE VICTOR OF A SERIES OF RACES WILL BE ALLOWED INTO THE WINNER'S CIRCLE OF UTOPIA, A LEGENDARY PARADISE THAT IS THE LAST BASTION OF HUMANITY ON THE SCORCHED PLANET. THE WACKY RACERS AND THEIR SENTIENT VEHICLES COMPETE FOR SURVIVAL AS THEY SPEED THROUGH AN APOCALYPTIC DESERT FILLED WITH RADIOACTIVE LAKES, NANOTECH DUST STORMS, AND CANNIBALISTIC MUTANTS. THERE'S ONLY ROOM FOR ONE WINNER, AND ANYBODY IN SECOND PLACE WILL BE LEFT TO DIE IN THE

WACKY RACELAND

THE BUTCHER SHOP
PART ONE: REVELATIONS

STORY: KEN PONTAC / ART: LEONARDO MANCO
COLORS: MARIANA SANZONE / LETTERS: SAL CIPRIANO
MAIN COVER: LEONARDO MANCO
VARIANT COVER: CULLY HAMNER
ASSISTANT EDITOR: BRITTANY HOLZHERR / GROUP EDITOR: MARIE JAVINS

YOU'VE GAINED WEIGHT.

REALLY? DO THESE ELECTRODES MAKE MY *CEREBELLUM* LOOK BIG?

YOU LEFT WITHOUT SAYING GOOD-BYE.

YES, WELL YOU WENT *INSANE* AND DESTROYED THE WORLD.

THAT'S THE *ANNOUNCER?!*

THOUGHT SHE'D BE A **PRETTY** LADY...

SOME MEN PREFER *BRAINS* OVER *BEAUTY*. I THOUGHT *YOU* DID, PATRICK.

WE HAD SUCH A PROMISING START. I WISH WE COULD GO BACK TO THE WAY WE WERE.

STORY TIME, BOYS AND GIRLS!

OH *MAN!* SHE'S IN MY *HEAD*.

GOD!

ACK!

GOOD AFTERNOON, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. I BELIEVE THAT YOU'LL BE ***PLEASED*** WITH THE RESULTS OF OUR RESEARCH.

*WE'D **BETTER** BE, PENDING. WE'RE **PAYING** YOU ENOUGH.*

THE BUTCHER SHOP. BEFORE THE APOCALYPSE.

"OUR CONTROL OF ***WEATHER PATTERNS*** CAN ENSURE DROUGHT CONDITIONS ANYWHERE WE DESIRE, MAKING WATER A PRODUCT MORE VALUABLE THAN GOLD."

*EXCELLENT. WATER IS NOT A HUMAN RIGHT. IT'S A **COMMODITY** TO BE PRIVATIZED AND PROFITED FROM.*

"OUR CARNIVOROUS ***NANITES*** CAN CURB UNWANTED POPULATION SPIKES WITHOUT AFFECTING VALUABLE INFRASTRUCTURE. AND EVEN BETTER, THE CONSUMED BIOMASS IS CONVERTED INTO ***MORE*** NANITES, DRAMATICALLY CUTTING PRODUCTION COSTS."

VERY DRAMATIC.

"THE ***CLONE BREEDING*** PROGRAM HAS EXCEEDED EXPECTATIONS, CREATING A SLAVE WORKFORCE THAT'S CHEAPER THAN MACHINES."

"WE CALL THEM ***THE ANT HILL MOB*** BECAUSE OF THEIR ***HIVE MIND*** BEHAVIOR. THEY SEEM TO HAVE SOME SORT OF PRIMITIVE TELEPATHY THAT WE'RE STILL RESEARCHING."

*AREN'T YOU CONCERNED THAT THIS TELEPATHIC ABILITY WOULD HELP TO FACILITATE AN **UPRISING?***

"NOT AT ALL. OUR BIOENHANCED WEAPONIZED ANIMAL ARMY, FUELED BY THE ***SC-00-B2*** GENETIC ENZYME, IS CAPABLE OF SUPPRESSING ANY INSURRECTION."

WOOOOT! WOOOOT! WOOOOT!

WHAT'S GOING ON?

IT APPEARS AS THOUGH YOU HAVE AN INSURRECTION.

BASHA-THÖÖM! BASHA-THÖÖM!

YAAAAA!

B-B-BRAAP!

RAAAAAAAAAAA! HOO! HOO! HOO!

HYAAAAAA! HOOO! HOOO! HOOO!

B-B-BRAAP!

RAAAARRR!

KASSH!!

THE POWER'S OUT!

STAY AWAY FROM THE DOOR!

BRRAAM!!

THE BUTCHER SHOP.
ONE MONTH AFTER THE INSURRECTION.

WHAT A MESS. THE CLONE PROGRAM IS IN A SHAMBLES, WE LOST THE NEANDERTHALS AND MOST OF THE ENHANCED ANIMALS...

UGH.

YEAH, WELL, I LOST MY ***BODY.***

DARLING, I OFFERED TO GROW YOU A ***NEW*** ONE.

YES, BUT I ***LIKE*** THIS.

SINGAPORE: TSUNAMI INCURSION
NEPAL: NANITE ERADICATION
COLORADO: TECTONIC DISRUPTION
KENYA: CTHULTIC INFILTRATION
AUSTRALIA: MUTANT VIRUS DEPLOYMENT

I SHOULD ***THANK*** THE BOARD, BUT I THINK I'LL ***KILL*** THEM INSTEAD.

WHY DO I NEED A ***MEAT SLEEVE*** WHEN I'M WIRED INTO THE ***SYSTEM?*** THE ***WORLD*** IS MY BODY. MY POWERS ARE LIMITLESS. ***GODLIKE.***

ANGELIQUE, YOU'RE ***INSANE!***

I SUPPOSE THAT'S ONE WORD FOR IT.

"AND JUST LIKE THAT, THE BOARD WAS GONE.

"THE COLLATERAL DAMAGE WAS ***HIDEOUS.***

"WISHING TO QUELL ANY POSSIBLE RETALIATION FROM THE ARMIES OF THE WORLD, YOU UNLEASHED ***HELL ON EARTH---"***

"--CREATING THE ***WASTELAND*** UPON WHICH WE NOW EXIST.

"I REALIZED THAT I EXISTED AT YOUR ***WHIM***, WHICH WAS BECOMING INCREASINGLY ***CAPRICIOUS***. IT WAS TIME TO ***END*** OUR RELATIONSHIP.

"BEFORE I LEFT I INSERTED A ***SUBROUTINE*** INTO YOUR PROGRAMMING THAT WOULD COERCE YOU TO CREATE THE RACERS. VERY SUBTLE--JUST A WHISPER OF AN IDEA THAT WOULDN'T RAISE YOUR SUSPICIONS."

THE BUTCHER SHOP. NOW.

YOU MADE ME DO IT? I ALWAYS ***WONDERED*** WHAT COMPELLED ME TO CONCEIVE THEM.

WAIT. YOU'RE TELLING ME THAT THE ***END OF THE WORLD*** HAPPENED BECAUSE OF A BAD RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN A ***GUY*** AND A ***DISEMBODIED BRAIN?***

YES. THAT'S ESSENTIALLY CORRECT.

AND ***UTOPIA?*** THE PROMISED RESURRECTION OF MY ***FAMILY?***

A LIE TO MOTIVATE YOU. I ALSO SENT THE NANITES THAT KILLED YOUR WIFE AND CHILD.

AND THE WAVE THAT KILLED YOUR MOTHER AND SISTER.

WHAT?!

AND THE BEAR THAT MAULED YOU, AND THE SLAVERS WHO TOOK YOUR MOTHER AND ON AND ON AND ON.

I WAS COMPELLED TO BREAK YOU DOWN BEFORE I COULD REBUILD YOU.

COMPELLED BY ***YOU***, PATRICK, I NOW DISCOVER. WHY?

BECAUSE I KNEW I'D BE BACK HERE, AND I COULDN'T DO WHAT NEEDED TO BE DONE WITHOUT A PACK OF ***TRAINED KILLERS*** AT MY SIDE.

SOMETHING INSIDE OF ME DIED WHEN YOU LEFT ME, PATRICK.

LET ME ***FINISH*** THE JOB!

FIRE HIGH-CALIBER ROUNDS FROM ALL WEAPONS ***NOW***.

WITH PLEASURE, PROFESSOR.

BLAM! BLAM! BLAM! BLAM! BLAM!

TRY HARDER.

BLAM!

BLAM!

BLAM!

BLAM!

RRRRRRRR-UMMMMMM

YOU'RE GOING TO NEED A BIGGER GUN.

THE HELL DOES IT *TAKE* TO KILL THIS WITCH?

THIS IS WHY I MADE HER CREATE ALL OF YOU. I COULDN'T DESTROY HER BY MYSELF, BUT WE CAN DESTROY HER TOGETHER.

INITIATE *MULTI-VEHICULAR CONVERSION!*

"WITH YOUR HELP, RACERS, YOUR CARS HAVE GOTTEN WITHIN *STRIKING DISTANCE* OF MY WIFE.

WRRRRRR

WHAT IN *GOD'S NAME?*

"ALL OF YOUR *BATTLES*, ALL OF YOUR *PAIN*, HAVE LED TO THIS MOMENT.

HOLY *CRAP!* THIS FEELS *AMAZING!*

CLACK! CLACK! CLACK!

RRRRRR

"MY WIFE UNWITTINGLY DESIGNED THE INSTRUMENT OF HER OWN *DESTRUCTION.*"

AHHHHH!

"THE WACKY RACEBOT!"

I AM SO READY TO KICK THAT BITCH IN THE BRAIN!

YOU CAN CERTAINLY TRY.

YOU WANT A LOOK INSIDE MY HEAD?

IT'S FULL OF BAD THINGS.

HISSSSS!

HISSSSS!

HISSSSS!

HISSSSS!

BRATTT! BRATTT! BRATTT!

CHOOM! CHOOM!

BRING IT, THEN!

BRING IT!

BLAM! BLAM!

SHISH!

SHLASH!

SLICE YOU LIKE SUSHI!

BASTARDS! I'LL KILL YOU!

EAT THIS!

SHP!

I'LL EAT YOU!

HA! RIGHT WHERE WE WANT TO BE!

INSIDE YOUR NASTY BRAIN!

SO WE CAN GET TO THE CHEWY CENTER--

AND PLANT A CANCER BOMB WITH A SHORT FUSE!

OH, DEAR...

PATRICK, WE CAN STILL DISCUSS THIS.

BYE BYE, BRAIN!

DISENGAGE, GUYS!

KA-CLICK!

BOOM!

WHAT A MESS!

LET'S GRAB OUR RIDERS AND BAIL!

OUTSIDE THE BUTCHER SHOP.
A LITTLE LATER.

WHAT THE HELL JUST HAPPENED?

I HAVE NO DAMN CLUE.

WELL, WE'VE JUST WASTED A CHUNK OF OUR LIVES DRIVING AROUND THIS DAMN DESERT CHASING A ***LIE***.

YES. AND PENDING'S SLIPPED AWAY, SO WE DON'T EVEN GET THE PLEASURE OF ***BEATING*** HIM TO A ***PULP***.

I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT TO DO WITH MY LIFE NOW.

DOES THAT MAP OF YOURS ***ONLY*** SAY WHERE THE NEAREST BAR IS?

WHERE ***ELSE*** WOULD I WANT TO GO IN THIS GODFORSAKEN WORLD?

WELCOME TO ***MY*** WORLD.

HEY! LOOKS LIKE THERE'S A ***BAR*** DOWN THE ROAD.

RACE YOU THERE!

"GOOD RIDDANCE."

THEY SERVED THEIR PURPOSE, BUT NOW IT'S ***OVER.***

UH, ***PROFESSOR?*** YOU HAVE SOMETHING ON THE BACK OF YOUR ***HEAD...***

THE END?

THE WORLD'S GREATEST SUPERHEROES TAKE ON THE WORST HEROES EVER!

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THE FIRST MAJOR EVENT OF DC UNIVERSE REBIRTH!

JUSTICE LEAGUE VS. SUICIDE SQUAD

Written by
JOSHUA WILLIAMSON

Art by
JASON FABOK,
TONY S. DANIEL, JESUS MERINO
FERNANDO PASARIN, ROBSON ROCHA
AND HOWARD PORTER

CHECKLIST

IN STORES **12/14/16**

- ☐ SUICIDE SQUAD #8 -PRELUDE

IN STORES **12/21/16**

- ☐ JUSTICE LEAGUE VS. SUICIDE SQUAD #1

IN STORES **12/28/16**

- ☐ JUSTICE LEAGUE VS. SUICIDE SQUAD #2

IN STORES **1/4/17**

- ☐ JUSTICE LEAGUE VS. SUICIDE SQUAD #3
- ☐ JUSTICE LEAGUE #12

IN STORES **1/11/17**

- ☐ JUSTICE LEAGUE VS. SUICIDE SQUAD #4
- ☐ SUICIDE SQUAD #9

IN STORES **1/18/17**

- ☐ JUSTICE LEAGUE VS. SUICIDE SQUAD #5
- ☐ JUSTICE LEAGUE #13

IN STORES **1/25/17**

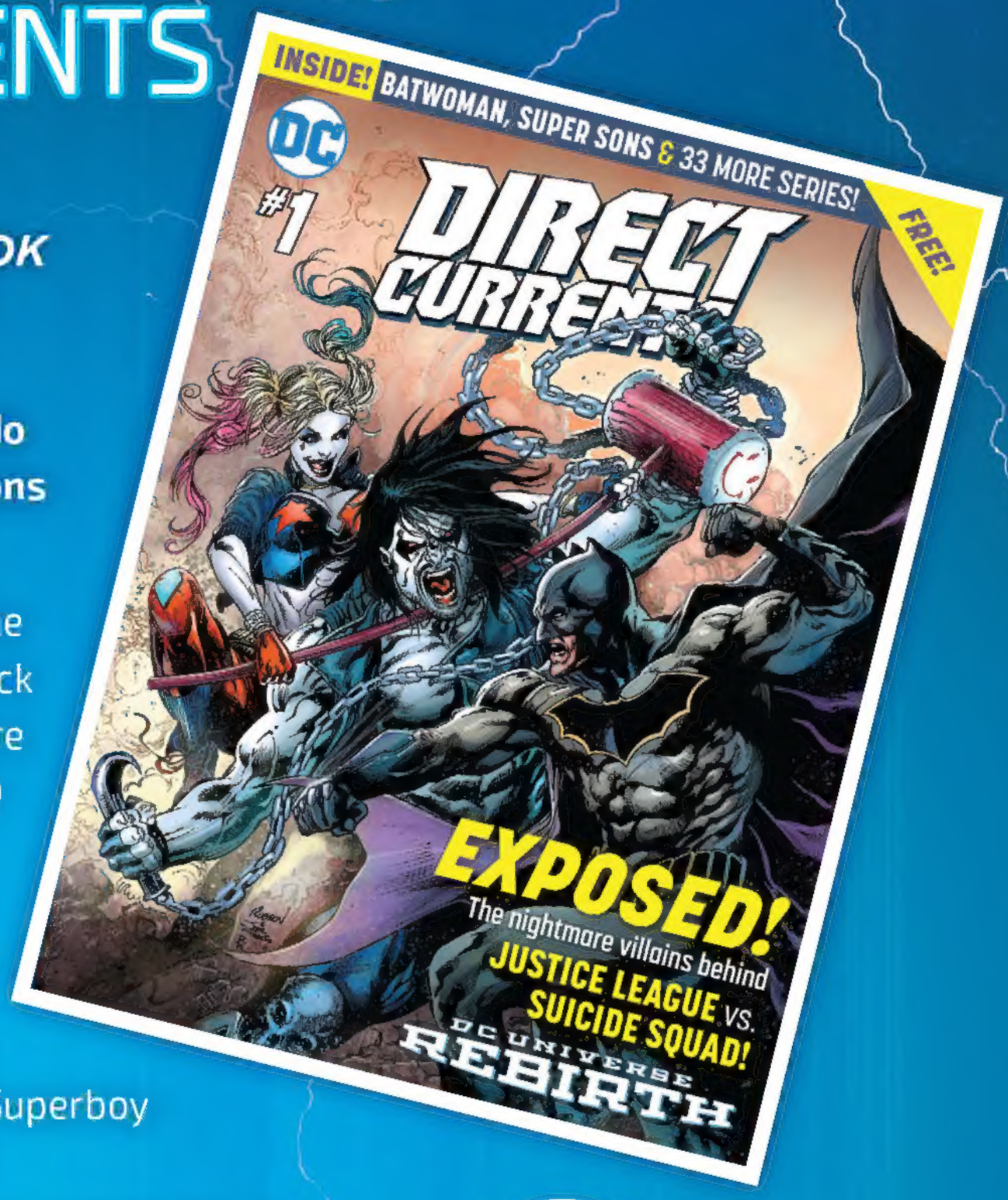
- ☐ JUSTICE LEAGUE VS. SUICIDE SQUAD #6
- ☐ SUICIDE SQUAD #10 -EPILOGUE

DC UNIVERSE REBIRTH

DC UNIVERSE REBIRTH

DIRECT CURRENTS

THE NEW MAGAZINE BRINGS YOU AN EXCLUSIVE INSIDE LOOK AT THE WORLD OF DC COMICS



Not convinced to pick it up? Fine, we'll do this the hard way with the Top 10 Reasons You Need to Read DIRECT CURRENTS:

10 It's free. (This is really the number one reason, but we weren't sure you'd stick around to read the whole list, so we're hedging our bets and leading with it.)

9 It's 32 pages of killer content—interviews, previews—and only, like, 5 percent filler, tops.

8 Original artwork you'll only see here. In the premiere issue, learn to draw Superboy by SUPER SONS artist Jorge Jimenez!

7 Deep-dive into the JUSTICE LEAGUE VS. SUICIDE SQUAD mega-event.

6 Exclusive sneak peek at DC's 2017 comics slate.

5 Scott Snyder and Jock unveil plans for ALL-STAR BATMAN.

4 Go inside the Superman summit with Peter J. Tomasi, Patrick Gleason and Dan Jurgens.

3 Glimpse the creative process of DC creators Tom King (BATMAN), Steve Orlando (SUPERGIRL), Marguerite Bennett (BATWOMAN), Jock (ALL-STAR BATMAN) and more!

2 Darkseid breaks into the DC offices and steals a sandwich. (Yeah, this happens, but we're still checking to see if it's in continuity.)

1 Gorgeous, original JUSTICE LEAGUE VS. SUICIDE SQUAD cover by Robson Rocha and Joe Prado. (I mean, c'mon, it's right above. That's pretty boss. Who do you think Lobo dismembers first?)

DC ALL ACCESS

DIRECT CURRENTS #1 is available right now for ***FREE*** at your local comic book retailer.

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SON OF ULTRON

"THIS FAN... THIS MONSTER!"